

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (New): A thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising the following components [A], [B], [C], and [D], but not comprising a (meth)acrylate-based resin, the composition having a durometer A hardness according to JIS K6253 of 42 or less:

[A] 5 to 60 mass% of an ethylene- α -olefin-based copolymer having a limiting viscosity of 3.5 dl/g or more measured in a decalin solvent at 135°C,

[B] 1 to 20 mass% of a polyolefin-based resin, and

[C] 30 to 94 mass% of a mineral oil-based softening agent, provided that the total of the components [A], [B], and [C] is 100 mass%, and for 100 parts by mass of the components [A], [B], and [C],

[D] 0.1 to 50 parts by mass of a hydrogenated diene-based polymer with a toluene solution viscosity (30°C, 5 mass%) of 42 mPa·s or more,

at least [A] the ethylene- α -olefin-based copolymer and [B] the polyolefin-based resin being dynamically treated with heat in the presence of a cross-linking agent.

Claim 18 (New): A thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising the following components [X], [B1], [C2], and [D1], but not comprising a (meth)acrylate-based resin, the composition having a durometer A hardness according to JIS K6253 of 42 or less:

[X] 5 to 60 mass% of an oil-extended rubber comprising [A1] 20 to 80 mass% of an ethylene- α -olefin-based copolymer having a limiting viscosity of 3.5 dl/g or more measured in a decalin solvent at 135°C and [C1] 20 to 80 mass% of a mineral oil-based softening agent, provided that the total of [A1] and [C1] is 100 mass%,

[B1] 1 to 20 mass% of a polyolefin-based resin, and

[C2] 30 to 94 mass% of a mineral oil-based softening agent, provided that the total of [X], [B1], and [C2] is 100 mass%, and for 100 parts by mass of the components [X], [B1], and [C2],

[D1] 0.1 to 50 parts by mass of a hydrogenated diene-based polymer with a toluene solution viscosity (30°C, 5 mass%) of 42 mPa·s or more,

at least [A1] the ethylene- α -olefin-based copolymer and [B1] the polyolefin-based resin being dynamically treated with heat in the presence of a crosslinking agent.

Claim 19 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 17, wherein the hydrogenated diene-based polymer [D] is at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of hydrogenated products of polymers comprising a monomer unit of a conjugated diene compound and hydrogenated products of polymers comprising a monomer unit of a conjugated diene compound and a monomer unit of a vinyl aromatic compound.

Claim 20 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 18, wherein the hydrogenated diene-based polymer [D] is at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of hydrogenated products of polymers comprising a monomer unit of a conjugated diene compound and hydrogenated products of polymers comprising a monomer unit of a conjugated diene compound and a monomer unit of a vinyl aromatic compound.

Claim 21 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 17, wherein the amount of ethylene monomer unit constituting the ethylene- α -olefin-based copolymer of [A] is 35 to 95 mol% of the total monomer units consisting of the ethylene monomer unit and a monomer unit of an α -olefin compound.

Claim 22 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 18, wherein the amount of ethylene monomer unit constituting the ethylene- α -olefin-based copolymer of [A1] is 35 to 95 mol% of the total monomer units consisting of the ethylene monomer unit and a monomer unit of an α -olefin compound.

Claim 23 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 17, wherein the mineral oil-based softening agent of [C] is a paraffin-based mineral oil.

Claim 24 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 18, wherein the mineral oil-based softening agent of [C1] and [C2] is a paraffin-based mineral oil.

Claim 25 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 17, wherein the crosslinking agent is an organic peroxide selected from the group consisting of 1,3-bis(t-butylperoxyisopropyl)benzene, 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(t-butylperoxy)hexyne-3, 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(t-butylperoxy)hexane, α,α -bis(t-butylperoxy)diisopropylbenzene, dicumyl peroxide, and di-t-butyl peroxide.

Claim 26 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 18, wherein the crosslinking agent is an organic peroxide selected from the group consisting of 1,3-bis(t-butylperoxyisopropyl)benzene, 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(t-butylperoxy)hexyne-3, 2,5-dimethyl-2,5-di(t-butylperoxy)hexane, α,α -bis(t-butylperoxy)diisopropylbenzene, dicumyl peroxide, and di-t-butyl peroxide.

Claim 27 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 17, wherein the ethylene- α -olefin-based copolymer in the thermoplastic elastomer composition has a cyclohexane insoluble content at 23°C of 60 mass% or more.

Claim 28 (New): The thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 18, wherein the ethylene- α -olefin-based copolymer in the thermoplastic elastomer composition has a cyclohexane insoluble content at 23°C of 60 mass% or more.

Claim 29 (New): A molded article made from the thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 17.

Claim 30 (New): A molded article made from the thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 18.

Claim 31 (New): A sealing material with low hardness made from the thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 17.

Claim 32 (New): A sealing material with low hardness made from the thermoplastic elastomer composition according to claim 18.

Claim 33 (New): The sealing material according to claim 31, formed into the shape of an O-ring, a sheet, or a rod.

Claim 34 (New): The sealing material according to claim 32, formed into the shape of an O-ring, a sheet, or a rod.

Claim 35 (New): A container using the sealing material according to claim 31 as a component.

Claim 36 (New): A container using the sealing material according to claim 32 as a component.

Claim 37 (New): A container formed from a composite body comprising a sealing part made from the sealing material according to claim 31 and a main body, produced by injection molding.

Claim 38 (New): A container formed from a composite body comprising a sealing part made from the sealing material according to claim 32 and a main body, produced by injection molding.

Claim 39 (New): The container according to claim 37, wherein the main body is made from a thermoplastic resin and/or a thermoplastic elastomer composition and can be recycled.

Claim 40 (New): The container according to claim 38, wherein the main body is made from a thermoplastic resin and/or a thermoplastic elastomer composition and can be recycled.

Claim 41 (New): A toner case having the sealing material according to claim 31 as a component.

Claim 42 (New): A toner case having the sealing material according to claim 32 as a component.